

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-02

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INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 3065

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FOLLOWING SENT LUANDA INFO PRETORIA CAPE TOWN RIO DE JANEIRO
CASABLANCA FROM SECSTATE WASHDC 12 MAR 75:

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CASABLANCA FOR WHITMAN
CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, AO

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE PANAM INTEREST IN LUANDA ROUTE

1. A PANAM OFFICIAL HAS ADVISED DEPARTMENT THAT THE AIR-
LINE MAY BE INTERESTED IN BEGINNING TALKS WITH ANGOLAN
TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT ON LANDING RIGHTS IN LUANDA IN CON-
NECTION WITH PENDING ACTION BEFORE CAB ON RIO-JOHANNESBURG-
RIO ROUTE.

2. PANAM REP INDICATED COMPANY MIGHT BE MAINLY INTERESTED
IN LUANDA LANDING ONLY ON RETURN TRIP FROM JOHANNESBURG
SINCE ALTITUDE AT LATTER POINT PREVENTS PLANES FROM CARRYING
FULL LOAD. HOWEVER, IT COULD STOP IN ANGOLA IN BOTH
DIRECTIONS. PANAM WOULD TRY FOR TRAFFIC RIGHTS BUT WOULD
SETTLE FOR REFUELING IF NECESSARY.

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3. PANAM WOULD BE INTERESTED IN STARTING PURELY PRELIMINARY TALKS AS SOON AS THERE ARE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS TO SEE. (FYI IN LATE JANUARY ON WEST AFRICAN FLIGHT A PANAM REP SAT BY CHANCE BESIDE UNITA OFFICIAL JOHN KAKUMBA WHO INDICATED INTEREST IN HAVING PANAM FLY INTO ANGOLA AND IN PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ANGOLAN AIRLINE. END FYI.) REQUEST POST COMMENTS AND ADVICE FOR PASSING TO PANAM.

4. FYI. UNDER STANDING RULES OF GAME, U.S. AIRLINES ARE REQUIRED OBTAIN USG APPROVAL BEFORE APPROACHING FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS TO REQUEST LANDING OR TRAFFIC RIGHTS. SINCE QUESTION WHICH U.S. AIRLINE MAY BE AUTHORIZED OPERATE RIO-JOHANNESBURG ROUTE STILL PENDING BEFORE CAB, DEPARTMENT NOT PRESENTLY PREPARED TO AUTHORIZE PANAM MAKE SUCH REQUEST TO ANGOLA. HOWEVER, WE WOULD NOT OBJECT IF PANAM (OR BRANIFF) DISCUSSED MATTER INFORMALLY WITH ANGOLA. END FYI. UNQUOTE ROBINSON

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